UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
HARVINDER P. JULKA & MOHNI JULKA,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

THE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT AND THE TRAVELERS PROPERTY CASUALTY COMPANY,

Defendants.

ANSWER OF DEFENDANT
THE AUTOMOBILE
INSURANCE COMPANY OF
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
i/s/h/a THE AUTOMOBILE
INSURANCE COMPANY OF
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
AND THE TRAVELERS
PROPERTY CASUALTY
COMPANY TO PLAINTIFFS'
SECOND AMENDED
COMPLAINT

Civil Case No. 08 CV 2410 (CLB) (GAM)

____X

Defendant, THE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD,

CONNECTICUT, incorrectly sued herein as THE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT AND THE TRAVELERS PROPERTY CASUALTY

COMPANY ("AIC"), by and through its counsel, RIVKIN RADLER LLP, answers Plaintiffs'

Second Amended Complaint as follows:

- 1. AIC lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a basis as to the truth or falsity of the allegations contained in paragraph "1" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 2. AIC lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a basis as to the truth or falsity of the allegations contained in paragraph "2" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 3. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "3" of the Second Amended Complaint.

- 4. AIC admits the allegations contained in paragraph "4" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 5. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "5" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 6. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "6" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 7. AIC admits that The Automobile Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut is s foreign corporation licensed to do business in the State of New York, but otherwise denies the allegations contained in paragraph "7" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 8. AIC admits the allegations contained in paragraph "8" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 9. AIC admits that it is 100 % owned by Travelers Casualty and Surety Company, which is 100% owned by Travelers Insurance Group Holdings, Inc., which is 100% owned by Travelers Property Casualty Corp., which is 100% owned by The Travelers Companies, Inc., which is the only publicly held company in the corporate family, but otherwise denies the allegations contained in paragraph "9" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 10. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "10" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 11. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "11" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 12. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "12" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 13. AIC admits that The Automobile Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut issued Homeowners Policy 979368948 633 1 to Harvinder P. Julka for the policy period March 31, 2006 to March 31, 2007 for Residence Premises located at 45 Northfield Avenue, Dobbs

Ferry, New York ("AIC Policy"), which speaks for itself, but otherwise denies the allegations contained in paragraph "13" of the Second Amended Complaint.

- 14. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "14" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 15. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "15" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 16. AIC admits that The Automobile Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut issued the AIC Policy, which speaks for itself, but otherwise denies the allegations contained in paragraph "16" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 17. AIC admits that The Automobile Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut issued the AIC Policy, and that the terms, conditions and provisions of the AIC Policy speak for themselves, but otherwise denies the allegations contained in paragraph "17" of the Second Amended Complaint, including Plaintiffs' characterization of the AIC Policy, and respectfully refers the Court to the AIC Policy which speaks for itself.
- 18. AIC admits that The Automobile Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut issued the AIC Policy, which speaks for itself, but otherwise denies the allegations contained in paragraph "18" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 19. AIC admits that on February 13, 2007, the AIC Policy was in full force and effect, but otherwise denies the allegations contained in paragraph "19" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 20. AIC lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form basis as to the truth or falsity of the allegations contained in paragraph "20" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 21. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "21" of the Second Amended Complaint.

- 22. AIC admits that by letter dated September 5, 2007, AIC disclaimed coverage to Plaintiff under the AIC Policy. As provided and more fully explained in the September 5, 2007 letter, AIC properly and justifiably disclaimed coverage for multiple reasons and AIC respectfully refers the Court to the September 5, 2007 letter for its full content and reasoning. AIC otherwise denies the remaining allegations contained in paragraph "22" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 23. AIC admits that its September 5, 2007 disclaimer letter speaks for itself, but otherwise denies the factual and/or legal characterizations made by Plaintiff in paragraph "23" of the Second Amended Complaint concerning AIC's disclaimer letter, and respectfully refers the Court to the disclaimer letter.
- 24. AIC admits that its September 5, 2007 disclaimer letter speaks for itself, but otherwise denies the factual and/or legal characterizations made by Plaintiff in paragraph "24" of the Second Amended Complaint concerning AIC's disclaimer letter, and respectfully refers the Court to the disclaimer letter.
- 25. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "25" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 26. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "26" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 27. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "27" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 28. AIC admits that the AIC Policy speaks for itself, but otherwise denies the factual and/or legal characterizations made by Plaintiff in paragraph "28" of the Second Amended Complaint concerning the coverage afforded under the AIC Policy, and respectfully refers the Court to the AIC Policy.

- 29. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "29" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 30. AIC admits that the AIC Policy speaks for itself, but otherwise denies the allegations contained in paragraph "30" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 31. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "31" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 32. AIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph "32" of the Second Amended Complaint.
- 33. AIC admits that it has disclaimed coverage to Plaintiff under the AIC Policy and, therefore, no adjustment has been made, but otherwise denies the allegations contained in paragraph "33" of the Second Amended Complaint.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Second Amended Complaint and each allegation contained therein fails to state a cause of action or claim against AIC upon which relief may be granted.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

This action may be barred by the statute of limitations, by the equitable doctrine of laches, by the doctrine of estoppel and/or by the doctrine of waiver.

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

AIC is not liable to Plaintiffs because the alleged loss resulted from an excluded peril under the AIC Policy; specifically, the freezing of plumbing, drainage, heating systems.

FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

AIC is not liable to Plaintiffs because Plaintiffs failed to comply with all of the obligations and/or conditions under the AIC Policy, including Plaintiffs' obligation to not

misrepresent, conceal and/or make false statements concerning material facts and/or circumstances.

FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The AIC Policy requires compliance with notice requirements as conditions precedent to coverage. AIC is not liable to Plaintiffs to the extent AIC was not provided with timely and proper notice as required by the AIC Policy.

SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

AIC is not liable to the extent Plaintiffs failed to timely comply with the sworn statement of loss condition in the AIC Policy.

SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

AIC is not liable to Plaintiffs to the extent the alleged loss does not involve direct physical loss caused only by a named peril in the AIC Policy.

EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

AIC is not liable to the extent Plaintiffs failed to comply with its duties after a loss as set forth in the alleged AIC Policy.

NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

AIC is not liable to Plaintiffs to the extent this action is barred by the doctrine of accord and satisfaction.

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

This action is barred to the extent there was a failure by Plaintiffs to take reasonable measures to mitigate, minimize, or avoid any damages allegedly sustained and/or to the extent such damages were voluntarily incurred.

ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

AIC is not liable to Plaintiffs to the extent the exclusions, terms and conditions of the AIC Policy apply to preclude coverage.

TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are precluded in whole or in part to the extent the "other insurance" provision in the AIC Policy operates to preclude coverage.

THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The AIC Policy contains various limits of liability. In the event that AIC is liable to Plaintiffs (which is expressly denied), AIC's liability is restricted to said limits.

FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The AIC Policy is subject to deductibles. Coverage is barred, in whole or in part, to the extent the alleged loss falls within such deductibles.

FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs have failed to state a cause of action for consequential damages.

SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

AIC is not liable to Plaintiffs because the alleged loss does not involve a "residence premises" as defined and required by the AIC Policy.

SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The allegations within the Second Amended Complaint fail to set forth the claims with sufficient particularity to enable AIC to determine all applicable affirmative defenses. AIC therefore reserves its right to assert any additional defenses that may be applicable, to withdraw any defenses that are found to be inapplicable, and to more specifically assert affirmative defenses once the precise nature of the claims are ascertained through discovery and further investigation.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, AIC respectfully requests that this Honorable Court grant judgment as appropriate in its favor, as follows:

- a. Dismissing all claims against AIC, and award costs, disbursements and attorneys fees with respect to this action;
- b. Declaring that AIC is not obligated to cover Plaintiffs for the alleged loss;
- c. Declaring that Plaintiffs are not entitled to the relief requested in the Second Amended Complaint; and
- d. Granting such other and further relief as this Court may deem just, proper and equitable.

Dated: Uniondale, New York July 25, 2008

Respectfully submitted, RIVKIN RADLER LLP

Uniondale, New York 11556-0926

(516) 357-3000

Attorneys for Defendant

THE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT sued here with THE TRAVELERS PROPERTY CASUALTY COMPANY

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